

## Message Text

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STADIS////////////////////////////////

FOR EUR/CE ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY) WB GW  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

AS REQUESTED, FOLLOWING ARE INFORMAL  
DESCRIPTIVE ITEMS ON MAJOR SIGHTS CONNECTED WITH  
FORTHCOMING PRESIDENTIAL VISIT IN THE BONN AREA.

### A. OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT

VILLA HAMMERSCHMIDT, OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE  
FEDERAL PRESIDENT SINCE 1950, IS SET IN A PARK ON THE  
LEFT BANK OF THE RHINE. THE NEO-CLASSICAL STRUCTURE  
WAS BUILT 1863-65 AS THE HOME OF A GERMAN  
MILLIONAIRE AND HAS CHANGED HANDS SEVERAL TIMES. ITS  
NAME DERIVES FROM ITS LAST OWNER BEFORE BEING  
REQUISITIONED BY ALLIED OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES.  
PROFESSOR THEODOR HEUSS, THE FIRST PRESIDENT, OCCUPIED IT  
IN 1951 AFTER IT WAS REMODELED. ITS PRESENT RESIDENT --  
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SINCE JULY 1, 1974 -- IS PRESIDENT WALTER SCHEEL.

### B. OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR

PALAIS SCHAUMBURG HAS ALWAYS PULLED DOUBLE DUTY  
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. TWO DAYS  
AFTER BONN WAS CHOSEN AS THE PROVISIONAL FEDERAL

CAPITAL IN 1949, THE "PALAIS" WAS DESIGNATED AS THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR AND REMODELED TO SERVE THIS PURPOSE. IT WAS ALSO USED AS THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY UNTIL 1976, WHEN A NEW CHANCELLERY BUILDING WAS CONSTRUCTED A FEW HUNDRED YARDS AWAY. SINCE THEN IT HAS ALSO SERVED AS A GUEST HOUSE FOR THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT AND THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR.

PALAIS SCHAUMBURG WAS BUILT 1858-1860 AS THE RETIREMENT HOME OF A GERMAN BANKER. FROM 1891 UNTIL 1939, IT WAS IN THE POSSESSION OF PRINCE ADOLF ZU SCHAUMBURG-LIPPE AND PRINCESS VICTORIA OF PRUSSIA, A SISTER OF KAISER WILHELM II. AFTER THE WAR IT SERVED AS A BELGIAN STAFF HEADQUARTERS. CONTRASTING WITH THE RENAISSANCE-STYLE OF THE MAIN BUILDING IS A SOBER-LOOKING ANNEX BUILT DURING KONRAD ADENAUER'S CHANCELLORSHIP.

#### C. CHANCELLOR'S BUNGALOW

STANDING INCONSPICUOUSLY BEHIND PALAIS SCHAUMBURG IS "DER KANZLERBUNGALOW," WHICH WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1964 DURING THE ERA OF CHANCELLOR LUDWIG ERHARD. THE BUNGALOW IS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE AUSTERE STYLE OF ITS ARCHITECT, SEPP RUF, ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ARCHITECTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN POSTWAR GERMANY. (AMONG HIS DESIGNS ARE THE ART ACADEMY IN NUREMBERG AND THE AMERICAN EMBASSY RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY IN PLITTERSDORF ON THE BANKS OF THE RHEIN, OFTEN CALLED "LITTLE AMERICA" BY BONN RESIDENTS. HIS RADICAL ARCHITECTONIC STYLE, AS EXPRESSED IN THE BUNGALOW, WAS EARLIER THE SOURCE OF CONSIDERABLE CONTROVERSY. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND WIFE "LOKI" USE THE BUNGALOW AS LIVING QUARTERS RATHER THAN THEIR IMPOSING OFFICIAL RESIDENCE IN PALAIS SCHAUMBURG.

#### D. TOWN HALL

ON THE EASTERN END OF THE MARKETPLACE IN BONN STANDS THE "RATHAUS," OR TOWN HALL, A GRACIOUS ROCOCO STRUCTURE BUILT 1737-38 BY MICHAEL LEVEILLY. SEVERELY DAMAGED IN AN AIR-RAID DURING THE WAR, IT HAS BEEN CAREFULLY RESTORED. INNUMERABLE FAMOUS PEOPLE HAVE

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ADDRESSED THE BONNERS FROM ITS OPEN-AIR STAIRCASE.  
GOTTGRIED KINKEL, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE LIBERAL  
GERMAN REVOLUTION OF 1848, SPOKE HERE IN THAT  
TUMULTUOUS YEAR. THEODOR HEUSS DELIVERED A SPEECH ON  
THE DAY OF HIS ELECTION, SEPTEMBER 12, 1948, AS THE  
FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.  
PRESIDENT DE GAULLE SPOKE HERE IN 1962, AND PRESIDENT  
KENNEDY ON JUNE 26, 1963.

E. FEDERAL CHANCELLERY

THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY, THE FEDERAL  
REPUBLIC'S EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING, HAS BEEN LOCATED  
SINCE 1976 IN AN ULTRA-MODERN BUILDING BETWEEN THE  
CHANCELLOR'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE AND THE PARLIAMENT  
BUILDING. "HOME" FOR ABOUT 420 OF THE CHANCELLOR'S  
STAFF, ITS STYLE IS STILL A SOURCE OF CONTROVERSY AMONG  
BONNERS. OPINIONS ABOUT THE TRANSLUCENT STRUCTURE --  
ITS EXTERIOR IS MOSTLY GLASS SURROUNDED BY BRONZE-  
COLORED ALUMINUM -- RANGE FROM THE CRITICAL TO A  
JUDGMENT OF "A WELL-PROPORTIONED, BALANCED ADMINISTRATIVE  
BUILDING." INSIDE, IT HAS ABOUT 240 ROOMS; ALONG  
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WITH OFFICES AND VARIOUS CONFERENCE ROOMS ARE A LIBRARY,

PRINTING SHOP, CASINO, RESTAURENT, CAFETERIA, EXERCISE ROOM, SWIMMING POOL, AND AN UNDERGROUND GARAGE FOR 350 CARS.

F. WAR MEMORIAL

SEPARATED FROM THE RHENISH FREDERICK WILHELM UNIVERSITY BY THE GREEN EXPANSE OF THE "HOFGARTEN", OR COURTYARD, IS THE ACADEMIC ART MUSEUM. A SIMPLE PLAQUE DEDICATED "TO THE VICTIMS OF WAR AND DESPOTISM" LIES BETWEEN THE TWO WINGS OF ITS STAIRCASE. IT WAS DEDICATED ON JUNE 16, 1964 BY THE THEN FEDERAL PRESIDENT, HEINRICH LUEBKE, TO SERVE AS THE FEDERAL MEMORIAL FOR OFFICIAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICES BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND FOREIGN STATESMEN. DESIGNED BY PROFESSOR KURT SCHWIPPERT, DIRECTOR OF THE WUPPERTAL SCHOOL OF ART, THE MEMORIAL IS MAINTAINED BY THE CITY OF BONN.

G. SCHLOSS AUGUSTUSBURG

USED NOW BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO HOST LARGE RECEPTIONS, SCHLOSS ("CASTLE") AUGUSTUSBURG WAS BUILT AS ONE ELEMENT OF THE BONN RESIDENCE OF ELECTOR CLEMENS AUGUST (1723-1761) OF THE HOUSE OF WITTELSBACH. THE

WITTELSBACH DYNASTY'S MAIN HOLDINGS WERE IN BAVARIA; ITS MOST FAMOUS MEMBER WAS PROBABLY LUDWIG II, THE "CRAZY LUDWIG" OF CASTLE NEUSCHWANSTEIN FAME. AUGUSTUSBURG IS ALSO KNOWN AS "SCHLOSS BRUEHL" FROM THE NAME OF THE TOWN IN WHICH IT IS LOCATED.

TODAY ONLY THE FACADE RETAINS THE ORIGINAL SOUTH GERMAN-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITALIAN BAROQUE STYLE. THE BAVARIAN COURT ARCHITECT FRANCOIS CUVILLIES THE ELDER BEGAN REMODELLING IT IN 1728. UNDER HIS HAND, THE ORIGINAL TOWERS AND MOATS DISAPPEARED, AND THE BUILDING TOOK ON AN EARLY ROCOCO CAST. THE GARDENS ON ONE SIDE OF THE CASTLE ARE QUITE FAMOUS IN THEMSELVES. ORIGINALLY CREATED IN FRENCH STYLE, THEY WERE REDONE IN THE ENGLISH STYLE IN THE 19TH CENTURY WHEN ENGLISH GARDENS WERE IN VOGUE. IN 1946, HOWEVER, THEY WERE RESTORED TO THE FRENCH STYLE ACCORDING TO THE PLANS OF 1750.

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H. SCHLOSS (CASTLE) GYMNICH

GYMNICH STANDS IN THE VILLAGE OF THE SAME NAME IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF EUSKIRCHEN. IT IS A TYPICAL LOWER RHINE MOATED CASTLE, OF WHICH THE OUTER WORKS AND THE MANOR HOUSE STILL REMAIN.

THE VILLAGE WAS GIVEN THE NAME GYMNICH AS EARLY AS 1041, AND THE FAMILY OF THE SAME NAME HAD RISEN TO A POSITION OF ESTEEM BY THE BEGINNING OF THE 13TH CENTURY. IN 1835, THE CASTLE PASSED INTO THE POSSESSION OF A FAMILY NAMED WOLFF METTERNICH AND, THROUGH MARRIAGE, WAS TAKEN OVER BY VICOMTE DE MAISTRE IN 1903. OVER THE CENTURIES, SCHLOSS GYMNICH WAS DESTROYED SEVERAL TIMES, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1390, BUT MORE SO DURING THE THIRTY YEARS WAR, WHEN IT WAS RAZED BY THE FRENCH.

IN ITS PRESENT FORM, THE SOUTH WING OF THE MANOR HOUSE DATES FROM THE YEARS 1547 AND 1655, THE NORTH WING AND THE MAIN HALL FROM THE 18TH CENTURY. THE TWIN-WINGED OUTER WORKS WERE ALSO BUILT IN THE 18TH

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CENTURY. THE LEFT ENTRANCE TRACT WAS COMPLETELY REBUILT IN 1955/56 AFTER TOTAL DESTRUCTION DURING WORLD WAR TWO.

IN THE MAIN HALL OF THE CASTLE, PORTRAITS OF THE  
LAST TWO ELECTORS OF COLOGNE HANG. ALSO WORTHY OF NOTE  
IS A ROCOCO CABINET, PROBABLY MADE BY COURT ARTISTS OF  
ELECTOR CLEMENS AUGUST OF BRUEHL. THE CHAPEL IN THE  
WEST TOWER IS DECORATED IN REGENCY STYLE. THERE ARE  
TWO GRISAILLE GLASS WINDOWS DATED FROM 1460, DEPICTING  
SAINT ANNA SELBDRITT AND SAINT JAMES MAJOR.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS RENTED THIS MOATED CASTLE  
TO ACCOMMODATE GUESTS OF THE STATE AND IMPORTANT  
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES AND CONFERENCES, AND HAS HAD  
IT ADAPTED ARCHITECTURALLY FOR THIS PURPOSE.  
STOESSEL

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